

(Washington, DC) — Congresswoman Gwen Moore released the following statement on today's increase in the federal minimum wage from \$5.15 an hour to \$5.85 an hour. When the law is fully implemented in 2009, the federal minimum wage will reach \$7.25 an hour. Currently, Wisconsin is a leader in the nation with a minimum wage of \$6.50.

"Today, for the first time in a decade, millions of minimum wage workers in America will receive a much-deserved pay raise. Under the leadership of a new Congress, we raised the wages of hard-working, dedicated Americans who simply want a better shot at fulfilling the American dream," Congresswoman Gwen Moore said. "I believe an honest day's work deserves a fair day's pay. Minimum wage employees work hard and play by the rules, and they deserve this pay raise.

"I am proud to say that Wisconsin is leading the nation in helping to provide working families with fair pay.

"This new law will help Wisconsin: Over 124,000 Wisconsin workers will directly benefit from the full implementation of this law in 2009 as the federal minimum wage is raised to \$7.25 an hour. The benefits are real and they will have an enormous impact on many Wisconsin workers who are reaching for better opportunities for their families."

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